



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Hu *et al.* Group Art Unit: 1652  
Application No.: 10/041,770 Examiner: S. Swope  
Filed: 1/8/2002 Atty. Docket No.: LEX-0294-USA  
Title: Novel Human Protease and Polynucleotides  
Encoding the Same

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 14, 2002

RECEIVED

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Arlington, VA 22202

NOV 25 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

Applicants acknowledge the receipt of the Office Action ("the Action") mailed on August 14, 2002 (Paper No. 6), which has been carefully reviewed and studied. The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the following amendments. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the following amendments and remarks. In order to facilitate the Examiner's evaluation of the application, Applicants have attempted to address the rejections in Paper No. 6 in the same order in which they were originally raised.

The response is timely filed. Applicants believe no fees are due in connection with this response. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any required fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0892.

11/21/2002 MBIZUNES 00000031 500892 10041770

01 FC:1201 84.00 CH

AMENDMENTS

**In the claims:**

Please amend the claims so that the text of the amended claims read as follows:

1. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence of

SEQ ID NO:1.

12/13/2002 DTHOMAS 00000001 500892 10041770  
01 FC:2203 140.00 CH

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